

Docket No.: 09614/000L414-US0

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Iizuka Hiroshi et al.

Application No.: 09/908,993

Filed: July 19, 2001

For: WATER SOFTENING DEVICE (JPA 2000-

220874, FILED 7/21/00)

Confirmation No.: 6849

Examiner: I. C. Cintins

Art Unit: 1724

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION (37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.116)

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated August 24, 2004 (Paper No. 20040822), finally rejecting claims 1-29, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.